

REMARKS**Status**

Claims 1-26 will be pending in this application upon entry of the present amendments. Support for the present amendments is inherent in the specification. Support for new claims 11-26 can be found in original claims 6-7 and 9-10. No new matter will be added upon entry of the present amendments.

Discussion

The objection of claims 1-4 and 6 as being an improper Markush group has been obviated in part by appropriate amendment and is respectfully traversed in part.

Applicants have now limited the claims to the elected subject matter, as suggested by the Examiner, except for the definition of Z^a. Applicants respectfully submit that even though quinoline is the Z^a group exemplified in the specification, the invention should not be limited to the scope of the exemplified examples. The amended definition of the Z^a group is a reasonable generalization of the exemplified Z^a group. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

During a November 5, 2003, telephonic discussion between Examiner Liu and Applicants' representative, Jing Belfield, Ph.D., it was noted that Group III (original claims 7-10) would be rejoined once subject matter was found allowable in Group I. Applicants respectfully request this rejoinder in the future.

The rejection of claims 1-4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, has been obviated by appropriate amendment. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The objection of claim 5 has been obviated by appropriate amendment. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification of such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or believes further discussion will aid examination and advance prosecution of the application, a telephone call to the undersigned is invited.

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Respectfully submitted,

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